



ALEXANDRIA, VA.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1870

VIRGINIA.—Gov. Walker has issued his Proclamation convening the Legislature at the Capitol, in Richmond, on the 5th of February next.

A dispatch from Richmond, dated yesterday, says:—"Gen. Canby to day, issued an order that all military commissions acting under the reconstruction laws, cease, and all citizen prisoners be turned over to the State courts; that all citizen prisoners undergoing the sentence of a military commission shall serve out such sentence unless released by a United States court, and that all civil officers appointed, under the provisional government shall vacate when their successors are elected or appointed under the new constitution. John L. Mayne, Jr., of Fredericksburg, was to day appointed Lieutenant Governor by Governor Walker to fill the vacancy occasioned by the election of Mr. Lewis to the Senate."

Gov. Walker, who has been acting as Provisional Governor of the State since September last, under appointment of Gen. Canby, was yesterday, sworn in as Governor of the State, by virtue of election by the people on the 6th of July last. The oath of office was administered to him by Judge Willoughby, of the Court of Appeals, who was his classmate at Union College, in New York.

We are regaled now, in some quarters, by the cry of "Good bye, Old Virginia—Hurra for New Virginia!"—"The New Era has come!"—"All hail to the New Era!"—"Old Virginia done with," &c. &c. These cries are uttered sometimes for taunt or derision—sometimes in jest—sometimes in unconsidered desire for novelty and change.—"We say, too, in sadness and sorrow of heart, 'Good bye, Old Virginia!'—the grandest, truest, noblest, best Commonwealth that ever existed on the earth—with all its faults and failings. Farewell to it! We never shall see its like again, we fear, in this country. And, this we say, who are as devoted friends to real, honest, material 'progress' and advancement, as the fondest acclamers for New Virginia!"

Mr. Dawes, in the House of Representatives, in an able speech, yesterday, replied to Mr. Butler's criticisms on his former speech, and proceeded to show that all the estimates of the Departments were extravagant. He reiterated his former statements, declared that they were made on correct information, and that he acted with a good purpose in making his speech. Mr. Dawes asserted that President Grant agreed with him that the estimates were entirely too high. The ultra radicals are quite incensed at the course of Mr. Dawes—but the people of the country, outside of party, applaud his independence.

Yesterday orders were issued from the Navy Department to suspend all work at the various yards that is now being done for the bureau of construction and steam engineering. This order will probably throw out of employment about eight hundred men in the New York, Boston and Philadelphia yards, while but a few mechanics will be affected by it in Washington, as the bureau named has but a small amount of work on hand there. The work upon the steamer Kansas is all that will be stopped there. The cause of the order is the severity of funds to the credit of the bureau, and the department is prohibited by law from drawing upon other funds.

At the recent Anti-Slavery Society meeting in Boston, Wendell Phillips broke loose upon Horace Greeley, and said "he would like to strip Greeley and put him out upon a prairie and to let him, 'Rot hog, or die,' and leave him there to work out his own salvation on his favorite theory. He said what was needed was not soldiers in the South, but a man in Washington. Place such a man as Ben. Butler in the White House, and 'there you would come down.' He also abused Senator Trumbull. Mr. Greeley and Mr. Trumbull ought to feel complimented."

The Richmond State Journal speaks wisely and properly to the colored people in Richmond, who are disposed to be fractious and to make trouble. It tells them, that as the State is now a State, under civil government, their efforts to get up "cesses for Congress" will be fruitless, and their acts will only recoil upon their own heads. The peace of the State must be kept at all hazards, and rowdiness put down, no matter who the rowdies may be. "If you want justice, go to the courts; but don't attempt to take the law in your own hands."

Mr. George Fitzhugh, of Caroline Co. Va., judge from his articles in Lippincott's Magazine, has received new light in the science of Sociology. He ought to get out a new edition of his book on that subject. The following is a specimen: "The white race, everywhere and at all times, have been discontented, rapacious, ambitious, accumulative, selfish, avaricious, competitive, and over-reaching." But we do not wonder. With all extremists, the pendulum swings, after a while, as far in one direction as it did in precisely the other direction.

A letter from a subscriber in Warren county, Va., says:—"There is no rejoicing over the admission of the State, with the conditions imposed—but a sense of relief that agitation is at an end on the subject." Our letters from Fairfax, Loudoun, Fauquier, Prince William, and other counties, are to the same effect.

The bill for the abolition of the Franking privilege passed the House of Representatives, yesterday, by a vote of 174 to 14. It repeals the privilege absolutely, to take effect on the 15th of July next. It now goes to the Senate.

The Richmond Whig says:—"For our part, we are content to stand by old Virginia, and without reference to mere party issues, to devote all our energies to the welfare of all her people." And so are we. And, therefore, believing that from what has passed, and what is now passing, the domination of the Radical leaders, and the principles of the ultra Radical party, as avowed and acted on, are all inimical to the rights and interests of Virginia, "without reference to party issues," we are more and more inclined any day to oppose any affiliation or connection with those leaders, or any adoption, or assistance towards the prevalence, of those principles—if principles is a word which can properly be applied in the case.

A biography of the late Chief Justice Taney is in course of preparation by Mr. Samuel Tyler, of Georgetown, D. C. Shortly before the death of Mr. Taney he placed in the hands of Mr. Tyler a collection of papers and documents relating to his private and official life, that gentleman having long been his confidential friend, and having signified a desire to write the volume which is soon to make its appearance. From one of Judge Taney's letters we quote this sentence:—"A judge of the Supreme Court ought never to be connected with the parties and politics of the country. If he should, he will certainly destroy his own usefulness on the bench, and the court itself will be finally brought into the political arena."

The Richmond State Journal argues that the Homestead clause in the New Constitution was intended to operate instantly, and to apply to debtors whose obligations were contracted before the ratification of the Constitution as well as after. It contends that it is retrospective in its provisions—that it is not contrary to the Constitution of the U. S.—and will be so adjudged by the courts. We shall see. The say law passes away upon the admission of the State. There will be judgments, executions, sales—and, we fear, great sacrifices of property and much distress. This subject is one of the most important that will claim the attention of our people and the Legislature.

The Richmond Enquirer not disposed to "run mad" over the "admission" matter, under the circumstances, quietly remarks, however, that it has certainly effected one thing—"We get rid of Gen. Canby." We don't know. We shall wait. We thought when Congress "stipulated" for the vote and settlement in July last, the thing was done. It was not done. We cannot say, but that by some Radical legislation or other, Gen. Canby may not be in some position or other in Virginia still!

Abel R. Corbin gave in his testimony regarding the September gold panic before the Congressional Committee yesterday. He denied that President Grant or any of his family were in the conspiracy, but admitted that he had made an unauthorized use of the President's name in his plottings with Gould and Fisk. Mr. Corbin justified his own deceit by pleading that it was no harm to take advantage of such unscrupulous men as these two. What "a precious set!"

It is stated that a new survey for a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien has just been completed. The work was undertaken for a Paris company by M. de Payot, a French engineer, and he has succeeded in laying out a short route from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The line is outside the limits of the territory over which the Panama railroad company holds a right. The cost is estimated at \$70,000,000, and the time required for the completion of the work from three to five years.

Washington dispatches report an extensive scheme for the establishment of American foreign steamship communications. Among the lines proposed is one from Baltimore and Philadelphia to Liverpool, the incorporators named in Baltimore being Messrs. Jos. Corner, Washington Booth, John W. Garrett, B. M. Hodges, Jr., A. Schumacher, Thomas Whitridge, F. W. Bruce, James Chesnut and Hamilton Foster.

Mr. Thornton, the British Minister, gave last night, a reception and ball, in honor of Prince Arthur. Every thing was conducted in the "most magnificent style." The President and his lady, and many of the officers of the government, were present. The Prince danced the first set in the ball with Mrs. Grant. He was only introduced to a few, whom he desired to know.

Porter, the man who was tried and convicted by a military court martial during the war, for treasonable language against the government and authorities of the U. S., was yesterday admitted to a seat as a Representative from Virginia in Congress, while Lewis McKenzie, one of the most pronounced Union men in the whole country, was not admitted yesterday. But he will be.

Gen. Sir De Lacy Evans, of the British army, who, when a young man, in 1814, commanded the raiding party which entered the city of Washington, and who, in his old age, was one of the most distinguished of the generals commanding in the Crimea, died in London on the 9th instant.

The appropriation made by Congress for the purchase and distribution of seeds, &c., will not possibly admit of any general or miscellaneous distribution. The Commissioner of Agriculture is, therefore, obliged to refuse all applications.

Several of the tobacco manufacturers in Lynchburg, Va., are preparing to resume work.

RADICALISM.—In the N. Y. Times of a recent date, appears the proceedings of the Republican General Committee, during which Col. Duganne moved that a party code be adopted for the Government of Republican primary meetings and primary elections. Mr. Strener, one of the leaders, opposed the adoption of the proposition; and, in the course of his remarks, alluded to the proposed Fifteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution. When that should be adopted, he said, (and the assent of but one State more were necessary to make it valid and they were more than three, he believed that, under it, Congress would have power to institute a commission which might appoint the very inspectors, canvassers and poll clerks in every town and city in the United States. [Applause.] The Committee refused to assent to Colonel Duganne's proposition, but voted to print it for the use of the delegate, and to consider it at a future meeting.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the Times."

Mrs. Harold, of Jo Davies county, Illinois, recently became insane on religious matters. On Tuesday, in the absence of her husband, she obtained a razor and attempted to cut her throat, when her daughter snatched it away from her and ran towards an out house. Her mother overtook her, and after a struggle regained the razor, and was about to draw it across her throat the second time when another daughter, 15 years old, placed her hand there and received a terrible gash. The mother then succeeded in cutting her throat from ear to ear, dying immediately.

There were present at the Bazaar anniversary dinner in N. Y. many prominent ladies of the city, and the Alumni of Wesleyan University are to bring their wives and "little ones" with them, to the Astor House banquet. The German theory and practice are that the head of the household participate in no festivities which he cannot share with his family.

The bill introduced by Gen. Logan, in the House of Representatives, yesterday, for the reduction of the Army, received the unanimous assent of the Military Committee. It will muster out in about a year, about five hundred officers, and will very largely reduce the expenses of the Army.

By order of Secretary Boutwell no more of the new fifty cent currency will be issued. This is in consequence of the note having been counterfeited. New designs will be made and transmitted to the bank note companies in N. Y. as soon as the engravers can accomplish the work.

The fishermen in the neighborhood of Savannah have already set their nets in the river for the reason, but the catch so far has been light. Shad from Back River five miles up the river, and from Fort Pulaski are slowly coming into market and bring \$1 each.

An effort was made in the Georgia Legislature yesterday to fill the seats of members of the House who had been declared ineligible, with the candidates next highest on the ticket. The House by a majority of two refused to supply the vacancies in this manner.

A prudent bride was that young widow in San Francisco who refused to marry a man of her second choice until he had signed a promissory note for \$2,000, payable to her on demand without grace.

At the last sale of Scranton coal in New York, on Wednesday, the prices were from fourteen cents to one dollar and twenty cents, below the prices of the last sale on December 29th.

Late advices from Liberia state that Chief Justice E. J. Ray has been elected President, and Dr. J. S. Smith, Vice President of that republic. Mr. Ray is a man of considerable wealth and great energy.

The present unreasonable weather is said to have caused much sickness on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The general health in and about Alexandria continues good.

The Erie Railroad strikers have disbanded, and are now applying for the situations they have lost. The strike was a complete failure. In the libel suit of George Wilkes against the Tuck, Field and Farm newspaper, the jury in N. Y. brought in a verdict of no guilty. The Greek Archbishop of Syria has received many honors since he came to London from the Episcopacy of England.

Governor Walker's Proclamation.—Whereas, a duly authenticated copy of an Act of Congress entitled "An Act to admit the State of Virginia to representation in the Congress of the United States," approved by the President of the United States on the 25th day of January, 1870, has been received by me from the Secretary of State of the United States, by which section of Congress the Constitution adopted by the people of Virginia on the 16th day of July, 1870, and the action of the Legislature of Virginia thereon, have been approved and ratified by Congress, and the State of Virginia restored in her political relations to the Federal Union;

And whereas, there is no day appointed by the said Act of Congress for the convening of the General Assembly;

Therefore, I, Gilbert C. Walker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, do hereby make known the facts stated above; and do further make known that the General Assembly of Virginia will convene at the Capitol, in the city of Richmond, on Tuesday, the 8th day of February, 1870, at 12 M., for the discharge of its functions under said Constitution.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the Commonwealth to be affixed, at Richmond, this 25th day of January, 1870. GILBERT C. WALKER.

By the Governor: GARRICK MALLORY, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.—Senator Hamlin, chairman of the Senate committee on the District, was present yesterday at the meeting of the board of visitors of the President Aid Society and appeared much interested in the reports presented, which show that much of the destitution existing among the colored people of the city is caused by want of employment, and the Senator avowed his attention of drawing up a bill which will provide work for many of the idle persons now living on the charity of the people of the District.

At a colored meeting held the other night, all those who spoke argued in favor of Congress making appropriations to provide work for the many colored laborers now living here.

The police have commenced war on the boot-blacks.

How MUCH TAX VIRGINIA PAYS.—It appears from an official statement which has just been prepared at the office of internal revenue, showing the aggregate receipts of internal revenue from each State, exclusive of the receipts from stamps, salaries, and passports through the State Department, for the fiscal year ending June 30th last, also the relative position of each State in respect to the amount of tax paid, that Virginia paid \$2,741,144.45 and stands No. 1 on the list in respect to the amount of tax paid. She is ahead of all the Southern States, as well as Wisconsin, Iowa, Delaware, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia. She pays four times as much tax as either Maine or New Hampshire, nearly twice as much as Iowa, more than twice as much as Rhode Island, ten times as much as Kansas or Nevada, and seventeen times as much as Nebraska or Oregon.—Richmond Dispatch.

THE LAW INTERPRETED.—The second section of the Virginia bill provides, "That every such person who shall neglect for the period of thirty days next after the passage of this act to take, subscribe and file such oath as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken to all intents and purposes to have vacated his office."

In closing his argument, Mr. Farnsworth stated that this section nullified that portion of the bill requiring the oath to be taken by those elected to office hereafter. This was the interpretation put upon this clause by many Senators, and was so understood when it was adopted. As the oath is to be taken within thirty days after the passage of the act, no other interpretation can be put upon it. So the bill really defeats and annuls itself so far as the oath relates to officers elected or appointed after the expiration of thirty days.—Richmond Journal.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

In Brunswick County on the night of the 24th inst, a lady named Rawlins, during the absence of her husband, and while surrounded by her children, was shot and killed. She had some difficulty with her colored cook, and it is thought the husband of the cook fired the fatal shot. Great excitement in the neighborhood.

The army officers now holding office in the Capitol at Richmond are already running over their books and "putting their house in order" preparatory to surrendering their trusts to their successors, who will probably be elected as soon as the Legislature assembles.

Messrs. F. L. Smith, G. W. Brent, and W. H. Dalany, of this place, are in Richmond attending to legal business. The Washington and Alexandria Railroad case was still before the Court of appeals yesterday.

By special order of Gen. Canby, dated January 25, Mr. Charles H. Porter was relieved from office as Commonwealth's attorney for the city of Norfolk, Va., to take effect January 19, 1870.

It is said that Mr. James Barbour, of Outper Co., has purchased, or become one of the proprietors of the Richmond Enquirer, and will be united in the conduct of that paper with its present editors.

Mr. William M. Keflinger, the depot and ticket Agent of the Orange & Alexandria Railroad, died suddenly at his residence in Charlottesville on Wednesday evening.

A few days ago Gen. Canby appointed William Kennedy, a colored resident of Henric, a justice of the peace, vice Dickman resigned.

Years since it was impressed on my mind by the change of the moon is, as the Thurens are the prevailing weather during that moon. I know of no scientific work that teaches any such consequence from the moon's age or condition; but I have made it a matter of observation these many years, and have never known it fail. Thus the remarkable droughts of last summer and fall were predicted, and the further astonishing weather we are enjoying was also predicted. Yesterday gave indication of the same mild and unseasonable weather for the next month. Let's all take note of the prediction now, please, it will be the last in my knowledge. Moon-shot.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette.—I beg to inform you that I, John A. Grant, of the Republic, you will probably greatly oblige the public by publishing a list of the private, as it is taken for granted they are not all officers, the maxim to fail.

To the Local Reporter of the Gazette.—Much obliged to you for accurate and interesting reports of our local affairs, we would respectfully suggest that in the future reports of the proceedings of Council, you omit the Blouse debates. We are sick. MORE CITIZENS.

FINANCIAL & COMMERCE.

Alexandria Market, January 28, 70.

FLOUR, Superfine	\$ 4 50	4 57
Extra	5 25	5 30
Family	6 25	6 30
Family choice	7 50	7 55
WHEAT, White prime	1 22	1 25
Good	1 15	1 17
Medium	1 10	1 12
Small	1 05	1 07
CORN, White	0 85	0 87
Mixed	0 82	0 84
Yellow	0 81	0 83
Small	0 80	0 82
RYE	0 91	0 93
CORN MEAL	0 90	0 92
OATS	0 82	0 84
BUTTER, prime	0 36	0 37
Common to middling	0 30	0 31
EGG, fresh	11 50	11 55
DRESSING, OIL	11 50	11 55
IRISH POTATOES	0 50	0 51
TURKEYS, per lb.	0 25	0 26
CHICKENS, per lb.	0 16	0 17
LARD	0 17	0 18
ONION	1 25	1 26
PEPPER SEED	8 25	8 30
Timothy	4 75	4 80
BACON, Ham, prime country	19 17	19 20
Sides	19 17	19 20
Shoulders	19 17	19 20
APPLES, per bushel	10 00	10 04
Green per bushel	2 00	2 04
POTOMAC HAD.	12 00	12 10
do. Herring, Family	7 50	8 00
do. Eastern Herring	5 00	5 10
PL. STEAK, Ground, per ton	4 00	4 00
do. " "	10 00	10 00
do. " "	5 25	5 25
SALT, Good, Alum (Liverpool)	1 80	1 80
do. (Sydney)	1 75	1 75
Liverpool per ton	1 75	1 75
Turk's Island nominal	10 00	10 00
WOOL, Common Unwashed	10 30	10 30
Washed	10 43	10 43
Merino, unwashed	18 28	18 28
Merino, washed	18 40	18 40
BEEF, No. 1	2 00	2 00
SUET, per 100 lbs	1 25	1 25
HAY, per ton, from the east	18 00	18 20

REMARKS.—The market for FLOUR, which has been very quiet during the week, closed dull and heavy. The receipts have been fair, but the demand light, the sales being confined to the city trade. Family brands are particularly dull; Extras in limited request for retailing.